

CLAIMS

1. Chromatographic process for separating saccharide monomers from dimers and/or saccharide trimers from dimers, wherein an ion exchange resin with a high degree of crosslinking is used when saccharide monomers are separated from dimers and a ion exchange resin with a low degree of crosslinking is used when saccharide trimers are separated from dimers.
2. Process according to claim 1 wherein the resin for separating saccharide monomers from dimers has a degree of crosslinking of 5 to 8 % and the resin for separating saccharide trimers from dimers has a degree of crosslinking of 2 to 4.5%.
3. Process according to claim 1 or claim 2 wherein the feed solution contains a saccharide dimers and 2wt%-DS or less of a saccharide monomer and/or saccharide trimer.
4. Process according to claim 1 or claim 2 wherein the feed solution contains saccharide dimers and 6 wt%-DS or less of saccharide monomers and/or saccharide trimers.
5. Process according to any one of the preceding claims wherein the saccharide dimer is maltose, maltitol or sucrose.
6. Process according to any on of the preceeding claims wherein the saccharide dimer is cellobiose, cellobitol, xylobiose or xylobitol.
7. Process according to any one of the preceeding claims, wherein the saccharide monomer is glucose, fructose or sorbitol.

8. Process according to any one of the preceding claims wherein the crosslinked cation exchange resin is a strong acid cation exchange resin.

9. Process according to any one of the preceding claims wherein the crosslinked cation exchange resin is a gel type strong acid cation exchange resin.

10. Process according to any one of the preceding claims wherein the saccharides are derived from starch.

11. Process according to claim 10, wherein the saccharides are derived by saccharification of liquefied starch with pullulanase and beta-amylase.

12. Process according to claim 11, wherein the saccharides are derived further by treatment with maltogenic alpha-amylase and subsequent saccharification with low temperature alpha amylase, optionally followed by a final saccharification with maltogenic alpha-amylase.

13. Process according to any one of the preceding claims wherein the separation is effected at a temperature of 65 to 90°C.

14. Process according to any one of the preceding claims wherein the separation is effected at a temperature of 80°C or more.

15. Process according to any one of the preceding claims wherein the disaccharide is a sugar alcohol which process comprises the further step of crystallising the sugar alcohol.

16. Process according to claim 15 wherein the disaccharide sugar alcohol is maltitol.